SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5236** TRICKY **B5236**

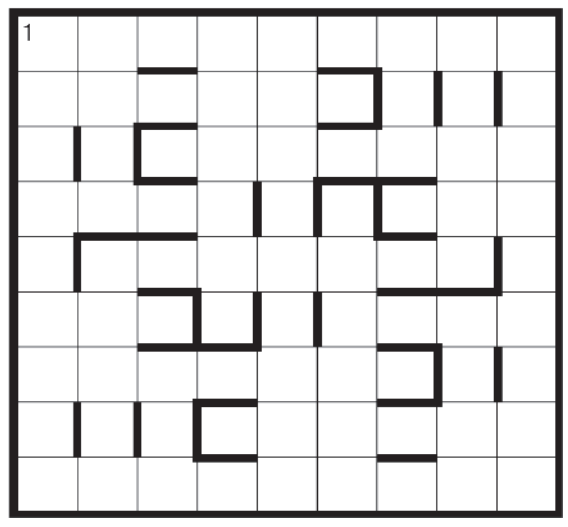
				6		4		
		6						
	8	5	9				7	
2							4	
	6				7	1	3	2
9				3	5		8	
6	2	1	7					9
4			8	2		3		
			6	5				

7					5		3	
	8	5	4		7		6	
	6		2					
			7					
						7	4	
		7	6		8			
3			1			2		8
		9				4		
	2	6						5

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

CROSSWORD



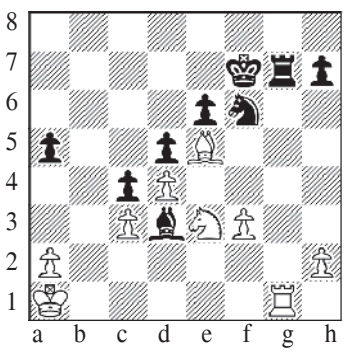
ACROSS

1 Official instruction (9)
Revised text (6)
Knocked senseless (7)
'Doing' word (4)
Small brownish spot (7)
Angry fold (anag.) (9)
Teach (7)
Vicious dog (3)
Ridge of coral (4)
Social insect (3)
The King's youngest brother (6)

DOWN

1 Diminished (9)
Go in (5)
Spool (4)
Subside or collapse (4,2)
All the people (9)
Writing fluid (3)
Worth (5)
Prolonged reprimand (6)
_ Stubbs, actress (3)
Gradual increase in volume (9)
Unoccupied (4)

CHESS

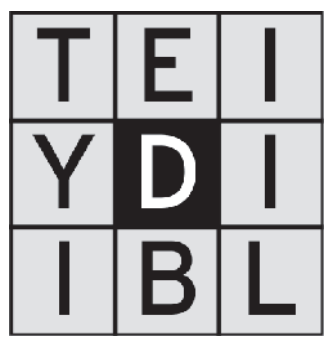


WHITE TO PLAY

HINT: PIN AND WIN THE KNIGHT.

Solution:
1. Rxg7ch! Kxg7
2. Ng4! does it.

TARGET



HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word.
No plurals or verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET

Good 11;

Very good 16;

Excellent 21 (or more).

Solution tomorrow.

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

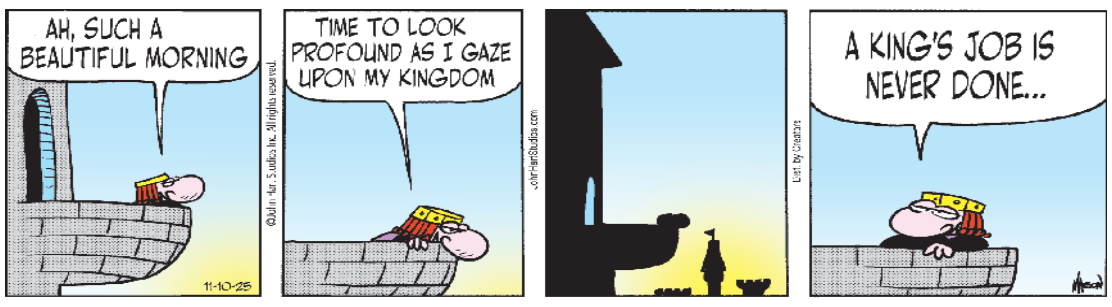
MARVELLED

aver delve derv elver evade ever laver leave leaver level lever marvel MARVELLED rave raved ravel ravelled reveal revel vale veal veer velar veld

THE METRO FUNNIES

BIG NATE | BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

THE WIZARD OF ID | BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



BABY BLUES

LOOK AT WREN'S ARM!
IT LOOKS LIKE A RASH.
OR MAYBE IT'S A RADIOACTIVE BUGBITE!
WHAT IF SHE'S SPIDER-BABY NOW?
WHAT IF ANYTHING YOU THOUGHT MADE SENSE?

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:41pm	05:11pm	05:47pm	05:09pm	05:16pm	05:44pm
Sunrise	06:39am	06:32am	06:44am	06:24am	06:39am	06:49am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow				Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook		Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	13	28	Sunny	55	12	28	Sunny		12	27	Sunny
Hyderabad	16	32	Mostly Sunny	40	16	32	Sunny		17	32	Sunny
Karachi	17	30	Sunny	58	16	30	Sunny		17	30	Sunny
Lahore	13	28	Sunny	46	12	27	Sunny		13	27	Sunny
Multan	13	28	Sunny	66	13	28	Sunny		13	29	Sunny
Peshawar	10	25	Sunny	49	10	26	Sunny		11	26	Sunny
Quetta	3	18	Sunny	36	3	16	Sunny		4	17	Sunny

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53, 99212634
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007, 99215008.
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
Telephone complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111-001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066, 32310077
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD

CARAPACE

(CARAPACE: KAH-ruh-pace: A protective, decorative or disguising shell.)

Average mark 12 words
Time limit 20 minutes

Can you find 17 or more words in CARAPACE?

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

▼ YESTERDAY'S WORD — PERCEPTIVE

peep	prep	recipe	crept
peeper	price	recite	tepee
peer	privet	reeve	tier
peeve	eerie	retie	tipper
peptic	epee	revet	tire
perceive	epic	rice	tree
pert	erect	ripe	trice
peter	ever	rite	trip
piece	evert	rive	tripe
pier	evict	rivet	veer
pierce	evictee	cite	vice
pipe	receipt	civet	vier
piper	receive	creep	viper
precept	receptive	crepe	

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. Words must be of four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. For example, if "bake" is used, "baked" or "bakes" are not allowed, but "bake" and "baking" are admissible.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

1 Plaything
7 Euro
8 Tonal
10 Sao
11 Sit out
13 Inebriety
14 Lizard
16 Ill
18 Slant
19 Rosy
20 Turncoats.

DOWN

1 Pessimist
2 Luring
3 Yo-yo
4 Hob
5 Instead
6 Glory Days
8 Tourist
9 Stellar
12 At rest
15 Zero
17 Inn.

METRO EVENTS

PLAY

A theatre performance of *Erisychthon*, is staged at Auditorium 1, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 8pm.

SESSION

A session on 'Inherited Inferiority' at G&T Auditorium, IBA main campus, at 5pm.

IQBAL DAY

On the occasion of birthday anniversary of Dr Allama Mohammad Iqbal, the Human Rights Council of Pakistan holds an 'Iqbal Conference' at JPMC Hall, at 12pm.

WORKSHOPS

As part of the World Culture Festival, a music workshop by Mixwell from Guatemala/Canada is held at Studio 2, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 8pm.

A workshop on 'Understanding Trading & Financial Markets' is organised at Iqra University, Gulshan campus, at 3pm.

ECO-EVENT

'EcoVibe 2025: Act, Aware and Adapt', a session based on environmental science and sustainability, is held at Iqra University, Gulshan campus, at 9am.

HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

ARIES | March 21-April 19

**** Your home routine might suddenly change this morning. (Be ready for anything.) Later in the day, you have lots of energy to schmooze, socialize and enjoy sports events. If you work in the entertainment world or the hospitality industry, you'll be productive! Tonight: Play!

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

*** Your daily routine might be different this morning. Give yourself extra time for wiggle room to deal with the unexpected. Later, vigorous discussions at home (with a female) will take place because you want to improve things at home or make something better. Tonight: Relax.

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

**** This is a strong day to make financial plans or agree with bosses and authority figures about financial matters -- perhaps your salary. (Take note of the brief Moon Alert and avoid important decisions during that time.) You have strong opinions today, and you're persuasive! Tonight: Teach and learn.

CANCER | June 21-July 22

**** Today begins with the Moon in your sign, which will encourage you to be calm and reflective. You might consult someone older or wiser for advice. You will also be thrifty and careful in whatever you do. Count on getting a lot done today. If making money decisions, avoid the brief Moon Alert. Tonight: Maintain your belongings.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

***** For most of this day, the Moon is in your sign giving you the energy to socialize, explore the arts or enjoy participating in sports. Or you might entertain at home, because home and family are a strong focus right now, especially redecorating. Enjoy your day! Tonight: You're in charge.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

*** Advice from someone older might be helpful today. Later in the day, you'll be happy to seek out some privacy so you can contemplate your navel. A chance to talk to someone might help you sort things out (at least, you can hear your thoughts spoken out loud). Tonight: Enjoy the quiet.

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

**** Early in the day, you're high-viz, making an excellent impression on everyone. Later in the day, don't hesitate to share your hopes and dreams for the future with someone who might act like a sounding board for you. You might fine tune some future goals. Tonight: Schmooze.

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

**** You have a strong urge to do something different today. A discussion with one of your kids or a creative friend might yield ideas about how to do this. For most of this day, your ambition will make you proactive and confident about achieving what you want to do. Tonight: You're noticed.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

**** Financial discussions will go well in the early morning, especially about how to secure issues related to home and family. Later in the day, plans to travel, get further education or explore avenues in publishing, medicine or the law will interest you. Tonight: Expand your world.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

*** Be prepared to cooperate with others this morning to make life easier for everyone, including you. Later in the day, you will defend your best interests in disputes about shared property, taxes, debt, inheritances and insurance issues. Tonight: Check your finances.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

*** Issues related to your work will flow smoothly this morning. However, as the day progresses, your courage and confidence will grow, and you will radiate an inner excitement when dealing friends and groups. Use this enthusiasm to start new projects. Tonight: Listen with interest.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

**** Your day begins with a strong focus. You intend to get a lot done. As the day unfolds, you'll be productive. Your view of things will be sober and realistic, which will help you put up with challenges and hiccups that might get in your way. Tonight: Get organized.

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-so-so; 1-Difficult

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q
♥ K 9 6 2
♦ K Q J 5
♣ A K 6

WEST
♠ K 9 8 7 6 5 4
♥ A 8 5 4 3
♦ --
♣ Q

EAST
♠ J 3 2
♥ Q 10 7
♦ A 8 4
♣ 8 7 4 3

SOUTH
♠ 10
♥ J
♦ 10 9 7 6 3 2
♣ J 10 9 5 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	2 NT	Pass
5 ♦			

Opening lead -- ace of hearts.

This spectacular deal arose in the 1993 playoff between Mexico and Canada to determine which of the two countries would play in the Venice Cup world women's teams later that year. Canada won the match by a comfortable margin despite being on the wrong end of the deal at both tables.

When Mexico's Luisa Grinberg and Laura Mariscal held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. The Canadian West elected not to act initially with her 7-5 distribution, no doubt planning to enter the auction at her next turn.

This strategy backfired, however, when her next chance to bid came over five diamonds, at which point she decided to leave well enough alone. With the club queen falling singleton, Mariscal had no trouble making her contract, losing only the two red aces for plus 600.

At the other table, with Elena Brucilovsky and Bronia Nosnik of Mexico sitting East-West, Nosnik opened the West hand with one spade, leading to this auction:

South	West	North	East
Pass	1 ♠	Dble	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Dble	

South could have saved the day by removing her partner's second double to five diamonds or four notrump (asking North to choose a minor), but she elected to pass. The contract could have been defeated, but North led the king of diamonds rather than a top club. Nosnik discarded her losing club on the diamond ace and lost only the A-Q of spades and king of hearts to finish with ten tricks.

Plus 590 at this table gave Mexico a total gain of 1,190 points, or 15 IMPs, on the deal.

Tomorrow: A tale of two tricks.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Quick — A5235

5	1	2	7	6	9	3	8	4
4	9	7	8	1	3	2	6	5
3	8	6	5	2	4	7	9	1
8	7	3	1	5	6	4	2	9
2	6	1	9	4	8	5	3	7
9	5	4	3	7	2	8	1	6
1	2	5	6	3	7	9	4	8
6	3	8	4	9	5	1	7	2
7	4	9	2	8	1	6	5	3

Tricky — B5235

3	8	7	2	5	1	9	6	4
2	6	5	9	4	3	1	8	7
1	9	4	6	8	7	3	5	2
6	4	8	1	2	9	5	7	3
9	2	3	7	6	5	8	4	1
5	7	1	8	3	4	6	2	9
4	1	2	5	9	6	7	3	8
8	5	9	3	7	2	4	1	6
7	3	6	4	1	8	2	9	5